

Alexandria Transportation Commission 301 King Street Alexandria, VA 22314

Phone: 703.746.4025

www.alexandriava.gov

Chair Johnson and Members of the Traffic and Parking Board City Hall 301 King Street Alexandria, VA 22314

May 20, 2016

Re: <u>Transportation Commission's Endorsement of King Street Complete Streets Improvements</u>

Dear Chair Thomas Johnson Jr.:

At its May 18, 2016 meeting, the Alexandria Transportation Commission reviewed and discussed three design options for improvements considered for the King Street Complete Streets project. Consistent with the majority of public input received via AlexEngage and numerous community meetings, the Transportation Commission endorses option three, "Complete Street Corridor Improvements". The Commission emphasizes that option three will improve safety for pedestrians, cyclists, and vehicles through the addition of safer crossings, slower traffic speeds, and buffered bicycle lanes. The Commission also emphasizes that the improvements will not significantly impact the level of service and travel delay. A design consistent with option three is considered best practice by the Federal Highway Administration for streets with similar traffic volumes and patterns to those on King Street.

This project is consistent with the Transportation Commission endorsed and City Council adopted Complete Streets Policy, Transportation Master Plan, and Citywide Bicycle Network. This portion of King Street was designated as an "Enhanced Bicycle Corridor" and identified as a priority project in the recent update to the Pedestrian and Bicycle Chapter of the Transportation Master Plan.

The City's Transportation Master Plan includes specific objectives applicable to this project:

- The City will make walking a part of people's everyday lives by providing pleasant, safe and accessible connections that encourage and reward the choice to walk.
- The City will implement a citywide bikeway network to serve all users and trip types, provide end-of-trip facilities, improve bicycle/transit integration, implement encouragement programs and improve safety.

The Commission supports designing safe streets for all users and appreciates your consideration of its input.

Sincerely,

J.J. King III

Chair, Alexandria Transportation Commission

cc: Alexandria Transportation Commission

Mark Jinks, City Manager Yon Lambert, Director, T&ES

Carrie Sanders, Acting Deputy Director, T&ES